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and sources. Yet the text rarely travels beyond Bright's *Chapters of Early English Church History* or Hunt's well known volume in the series on the history of the Church of England edited by Stephens and Hunt, or other standard works. Even the bibliographies have less originality than would at first appear. But to say that the volume is of little importance to students able to use English books is not to condemn it. In reality it is merely a part of a great undertaking inspired by the wish of Leo XIII. to see "une histoire ecclésiastique universelle, mise au point du progrès de la critique de notre temps". As such the work is excellent, fully abreast of recent scholarship, bringing together assured results in an attractive and convenient form. Writing on such a theme it is difficult for an author to suppress himself and it is hardly necessary. The ecclesiastical affiliations of the writer, however, are nowhere obtrusive and there is no trace of bias in his statements. Dom Cabrol has been unfortunate in falling foul of some of the writers of an antiquated type whose contentions have long since been abandoned by English scholars of all parties, but to whom he feels called upon to give a few polemical thrusts. These passages though brief are to be regretted as giving French students and others unacquainted with the better English works a false opinion of Anglican scholarship, to representatives of which the author pays high tribute in his bibliographies, though without noting that they are Anglican writers. The general treatment of the Anglo-Saxon Church labors under the disadvantage of being often over-condensed. Some space given to graceful legends might have been saved for more important matters. Thus it is quite misleading to attribute the conversion of Wessex to the influence of King Oswald. The importance of the work of St. Birinus should have been mentioned. There is too much stress laid upon the work of Aidan. The force of territorialism in the Anglo-Saxon Church is hardly recognized. There is a disproportionate amount of the limited space given to monasticism, important as that is. But as an introduction to the subject, the book will serve as a safe guide to French students and for further study the ample bibliographies and references, points for which the author has an evident weakness, will be found useful. For English and American students there are more satisfactory works at hand, for the traditional Anglican historian has been entirely supplanted by such men as Bright, Hunt and Plummer.

Jos. CULLEN AYER, JR.

The Gilds and Companies of London. By GEORGE UNWIN, Lecturer on Economic History in the University of Edinburgh. (London: Methuen and Company. 1908. Pp. xvi, 397.)

MR. UNWIN has given us a most interesting general account of the numerous gilds and companies of the great English metropolis and has supplied a valuable work of reference for students of municipal, social

and industrial history. There does not appear to have been any time in the history of London when a gild merchant of a general character existed and consequently the history of the various crafts, mysteries and companies assumes especial importance and significance. In spite of this fact and of abundant original material in the form of chronicles, records and reports, we have lacked a well organized and authoritative account of the craft movement in London. The standard works on the subject have been Herbert's *History of the Twelve Great Livery Companies of London* (two vols., 1836-1837), a valuable and painstaking work, and Hazlitt's *Livery Companies of the City of London* (1892), a useful compilation from published sources of information. The present work, which is based on ten years' study of printed and unprinted sources, is therefore a very timely and important contribution to English history.

The plan of Mr. Unwin's work is clearly influenced by two aims, first to give a clear account of "the continuous organic development of the gilds and companies of London from the days of Henry Plantagenet to those of Victoria" and, second, to bring out "the significance which the gilds and companies as a whole have had for the constitutional history of the city, and for the social and economic development of the nation at large". The first of these aims is necessarily given most prominence and is carried out with remarkable success by a marshalling of data in a clear and connected way. The discussion of the significance of the gilds and companies and of their influence on the country at large leaves more to be desired, though there are many clever generalizations, not always supported by evidence.

The first chapter in the book is entitled The Place of the Gild in the History of Western Europe, but hardly deserves such a title nor, in the opinion of the reviewer, should it have been inserted at all. It is not well thought out nor well organized and in its rheorical phrases in the form of questions (*e. g.*, p. 11, "Whence came the great change, the return to the upward movement, the budding morrow in the midnight of the dark ages? Was it due to the infusion of German blood, or to the infusion of Christian doctrine, or to some other still more occult cause? To use a convenient formula of M. Maeterlinck, 'We cannot tell'") it is out of harmony with the later chapters. The really valuable part of the work consists of the other eighteen chapters tracing the special development of the London gilds. After a brief account of the Frith Gild and the Cnihten Gild of Anglo-Saxon times the origin of the craft-gilds in the courts of the bakers, fishmongers and weavers is taken up in a clear and interesting manner. Then follows a useful account of the adulterine gilds of Henry II.'s time and later as unofficial associations or fraternities. With Chapter v. on The Crafts and the Constitution the political influence of the crafts is emphasized and this is further developed in the following chapters on

The Greater Mysteries and The Lesser Mysteries. Chapters viii. (The Fraternities of Crafts) and ix. (The Parish Fraternities) are digressions from the political narrative but throw valuable light on the social and religious aspects of London gild life. The account given in chapter x. of The Rule of the Mysteries, 1376–1384, brings out most admirably the part played by the crafts of London during the strenuous years that saw the end of Edward III.'s long reign and the beginnings of the rule of the boy king Richard II. This period and the early fourteenth century saw the climax of gild power and prosperity; in 1422 there appear to have been no less than one hundred and eleven crafts in actual existence. Failure to secure incorporation, competition of trade, expense of maintenance and other minor causes combined, however, to rapidly lessen the number of crafts. Amalgamation became frequent and by 1531 there were only about sixty recognized crafts and of these not more than thirty were incorporated. Of these the twelve most important were known as the "Twelve Great Livery Companies" and were supposed to have special rights and privileges, especially in the matter of civic offices. Space will not permit of any detailed account of the later chapters of Mr. Unwin's book; it must suffice to say that he carries us along rapidly through the age of industrial expansion under the Tudors and the monopolies of the Stuarts to the transition from the gild to the trade-union. The work closes with a brief account of the interesting present-day survivals of the London gilds, especial attention being bestowed on the gilds of transport. In an appendix is given a list of the chief parish gilds, an extract from the Brewers' Records of 1422 giving the one hundred and eleven companies then existent, and a list of the forty-seven companies keeping the watch in 1518 from the London Letter Book. A second appendix contains an excellent list of special sources for the history of the existing London companies. This is a useful special bibliography but we should have been glad of a more general one as well. However, a very satisfactory general bibliography of the gilds and companies of London will be found in Gross's *Bibliography of British Municipal History*.

On the whole Mr. Unwin is to be congratulated for having produced such a valuable and readable account of London civic and commercial life.

N. M. TRENHOLME.

Innocent III.: Le Concile de Latran et la Réforme de l'Église, avec une Bibliographie et une Table Générale des six Volumes. Par ACHILLE LUCHAIRE, Membre de l'Institut. (Paris: Hachette et Cie. 1908. Pp. x, 291.)

THE five preceding volumes of this series dealt with the political work of Innocent III.; this sixth and last volume devotes itself to the epilogue of that great pope's political activity—the Lateran Council,